Local Government is a State subject. In view of this, it is for the State Government to consider the issues relating to setting up municipal bodies in urban areas.

Housing Scheme for Urban poor

2147. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the housing schemes formulated by Government for poor people in the urban areas of the country; and

(b) the financial assistance likely to be provided by Government, scheme-wise during the Tenth Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) Housing is a State subject. Government of India acts only as a facilitator and not as a provider. However, Housing & Urban Development Corporation Ltd. (HUDCO), a public sector enterprise under this Ministry, provides housing finance to various State agencies for housing schemes including those for the weaker sections of the society. HUDCO provides housing finance based on demand driven approach. It is for State agecies to submit projects proposals for the assistace from HUDCO, according to their requirements.

In order to facilitate construction of adequate housing facilities particularly for Economically Weaker Sections and Low Income Group, Government has launched the Two Million Housing Programme under which 7 lakh houses will be constructed in Urban areas every year. This programme is implemented through Housing & Urban Development Corporation Ltd. (HUDCO), Housing finance Institutions, Public Sector Banks and Cooperative Sector.

Government has also launched a Centrally sponsored Scheme named Valmiki Ambedkar Awas Yojana (VAMBAY) on 2.12.2001, with the aim to provide shelter or upgrade the existing shelter for the people living below poverty line including members of Economically Weaker Sections who do not posses adequate shelter in urban slums and enabling urban environment through construction of community toilets

under Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan, a component of VAMBAY. This scheme is shared between Centre and State in the ratio of 50:50.

(b)TheTwo Million Housing Programme is a demand driven scheme. No financial allocation is earmarked in the budget for this scheme during the Tenth Plan as it is essentially a loan based scheme. HUDCO and other organisations have been extending loans to Housing Boards and other parastatals against projects for implementing the programme. In 2002-03 *viz.* First Year of the Tenth Plan, the Urban Housing sanctions have been as follows:—

HUDCO	Rs. 2792.91 crore
Cooperative Sector	Rs. 1287.09 crore
HFIs/Banks	Rs. 19148.71 crore

A similar amount is estimated to be spent annually towards urban housing during the remaining years of the Tenth Plan. The total outlay for VAMBAY in the Tenth Plan is Rs. 2040 crore.

Barbed fencing around Government colonies

2148. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have provided barbed fencing around the Government colonies of the Central Government employees for the purpose of security and safety;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that such facilities have not been provided in 'D' Block of Netaji Nagar and Vasant Vihar, New Delhi while the residents of the said colonies have been approaching the authorities continuously; and

(d) if so by when, such facility would be provided and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) and (b) For security purposes, boundary walls with